



15 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

All educational evidence tells us that pupils' home learning is a crucial part of success at school. So, at the start of the new academic year, I want to explain to carers and parents the approach we take to home learning here at Backwell. We are committed to developing a culture where high quality home learning underpins and develops the outstanding learning which occurs in lessons.

Why do we set Home Learning tasks?

Home learning is set in order to:

- Extend learning time through consolidation and extension activities.
- Provide opportunities for creativity and choice.
- Act as a bridge between teacher led and student-led learning.
- Develop the skills required for independent learning.

How often is Home Learning set?

In **Key Stage 3 (years 7-9)**, pupils will be set home learning each week according to the home learning timetable.

- Maths and Modern Foreign Languages will set weekly home learning.
- Science and English will be set fortnightly.
- Other subjects will be set termly - in different weeks throughout each term to spread out the workload for pupils.
- No home learning will be set for core PE.

In **Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)**, pupils will be set weekly home learning in all their subjects with the exception of core PE and SMSC.

How is Home Learning set?

Home learning is set on our virtual learning platform, 'Frog'. Pupils are expected to use this to help them manage their work and ensure that all subject deadlines are met.

How do you make sure pupils do their home learning?

- If pupils have not completed home learning by the deadline or the work is not completed to the quality expected, this will, in the first instance, be followed up by the class teacher and parents/carers will be notified that a deadline has been missed.

- If the home learning is not then handed in, pupils will be expected to attend a curriculum catch up session in order to complete the work. These are compulsory and will usually take place at lunchtime.
- Non-attendance at curriculum catch up will result in an after school detention.

How can parents and carers help pupils develop good home learning routines?

- Check Frog using the app and ask to see the task once it is completed.
- Provide a quiet area to work in and remove distractions, especially mobile phones.
- Encourage your child to speak to their class teacher if they need help or are unsure about what to do.
- The school library is open before school from 8am and after school until 4.30pm except Fridays for pupils to complete home learning and access the IT facilities. A number of subject areas also offer home learning clubs at lunchtime to support students with their work.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions regarding home learning in a particular subject, please contact your child's class teacher and they will be able to advise.

Best wishes



Clara Mason

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